## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



## **ENFORCEMENT BUREAU**

NORTHEAST REGION

New York Office 201 Varick Street New York, NY, 10014

May 18, 2010

Anoy Wray Carteret, New Jersey

## NOTICE OF UNLICENSED OPERATION

Case Number: EB-10-NY-0062 Document Number: W201032380068

The New York Office received information that interference was being caused to critical GPS navigation signals in the restricted 1453 – 1626.5 MHz band. On April 29, 2010, agents from this office confirmed by direction finding techniques that radio signals were emanating from a radio transmitting device apparently designed to jam Global Positioning System ("GPS") transmissions that was located in Anoy Wray's Chevrolet Uplander on the New Jersey Turnpike in Elizabeth, New Jersey. The signal emanating from Anoy Wray's vehicle was interfering with critical GPS navigation signals on 1575.42 MHz. The use of a GPS jammer is strictly prohibited.

Persons operating or using radio transmitters must be licensed or authorized by the FCC, pursuant to Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. In addition, radio transmitting equipment must comply with FCC rules.<sup>1</sup> GPS jammers are intentional radiators and operate in frequency bands used for GPS, which are within the restricted frequency bands listed in Section 15.205(a) of the Rules.<sup>2</sup> The purpose of GPS jammers is to block or interfere with radio communications that are conveying navigation information. Such use is prohibited by Section 333 of the Act, which states that "[n]o person shall willfully or maliciously interfere with or cause interference to any radio communications of any station licensed or authorized by or under this Act or operated by the United States Government." A GPS jammer operates in restricted frequency bands, intentionally interferes with radio communications, is not eligible for FCC certification, and use of a GPS jammer is strictly prohibited.<sup>3</sup>

1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>47 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart J.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 15.205(a). Section 15.205(a) of the Rules allows intentional radiators to transmit only spurious emissions in the restricted frequency bands. This section permits only very low level spurious emissions in restricted bands, from transmitters operating outside the restricted bands.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 333.

The operation of a GPS jammer by Anoy Wray constitutes a violation of Sections 333 and 301 of the Act, as described above, <sup>4</sup> and may subject Anoy Wray to substantial monetary forfeitures, *in rem* arrest action against the offending radio equipment, and criminal sanctions including imprisonment. <sup>5</sup> Because unauthorized operation creates a danger of interference to important radio communications services, and may subject the operator to severe penalties, this warning emphasizes the importance of complying strictly with these legal requirements.

## <u>UNAUTHORIZED OPERATION OF THIS RADIO TRANSMITTING DEVICE MUST</u> CEASE IMMEDIATELY.

Within ten (10) days from the date of this warning, you are asked to provide information regarding the entity from whom you purchased the device, including copies of any receipts or invoices, and information about the device, including make, model, serial number and any other relevant information in your possession. You also may respond with any other information you believe relevant to this warning. Your response should be sent to the address in the letterhead and reference the listed case number. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, we are informing you that the Commission's staff will use all relevant material information before it to determine what, if any, enforcement action is required to ensure your compliance with the Communications Act and FCC Rules.<sup>6</sup> This will include any information that you disclose in your reply.

Be advised that this warning does not preclude this office from pursuing additional sanctions based upon our investigation of this incident.

Daniel W. Noel District Director New York Office

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 47 U.S.C. §§ 301, 302a(b), 333.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See 47 U.S.C. §§ 401, 501, 503, 510.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3).